Amendments to the Claims:

1 - 18. (canceled)

19. (previously presented) A method of producing compressed, plastic-coated fibers or rovings consisting of substantially parallel filaments, said method comprising steps of

coating said fibers or rovings in a dry coating method with plastic in a coating device by applying the plastic onto the fibers or rovings as a powder in a fluidized-bed bath,

heating the coated fibers or rovings in such a way that the plastic applied is present in a molten or liquid state, and then

passing said fibers or rovings through a rotating sizing die of a rotating device,

heating said rotating sizing die to at least the melting point of the fiber coating,

wherein said step of passing said fibers and rovings through said rotating device comprises the steps of:

rotating said fibers or rovings whereby a local rotation of the fibers or rovings is executed which twists the individual filaments with one another in the form of rotations, starting from the rotating device, backward along the fibers or rovings in the direction of the coating device, in such a way that after passing through the rotating device there are substantially no rotations and the filaments have no spiral revolutions per meter or only a small number thereof and are arranged substantially parallel and linear or straight, and

sizing said fibers or rovings in said heated rotating sizing die.

20. (previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 19, wherein thin threads having a diameter in the range of 100 - 1000 microns are produced.

21. (canceled)

22. (previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 19, further comprising subsequent steps of

coating the rovings additionally with a material selected from the group consisting of mineral powders or metal powders at temperatures above the melting point of the polymer coating, plastic, and mixtures thereof and then

hardening the rovings or allowing them to solidify.

23. (canceled)

24. (currently amended) The method as claimed in claim ~~23~~ 19, wherein the sizing die is rotated at such a high speed that all excess coating material is spun off at the die edge.

25. (currently amended) The method as claimed in claim ~~23~~ 19, wherein the rotating sizing die is fixed in a hollow shaft and rotated together with said hollow shaft.

26. (previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 25, wherein the rotating sizing die is rotated at a speed of at least 500 revolutions per minute.

27. (previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 25, wherein the rotating sizing die is rotated at a speed of at least 2000 revolutions per minute.

28. (previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 25, wherein the rotating sizing die is rotated at a speed of about 10,000 revolutions per minute.

29. (canceled)

30. (currently amended) The method as claimed in claim ~~23~~ 19, wherein a plurality of rotating sizing dies are connected in series and the fibers are passed through these devices and thus sized and compressed.

31. (currently amended) The method as claimed in claim ~~23~~ 19, wherein the sizing die has an internal diameter in the range of 100 - 2000 pm.

32. (currently amended) The method as claimed in claim ~~23~~ 19, wherein the sizing die has an internal diameter in the range of 150 - 600 pm.

33. (currently amended) The method as claimed in claim ~~23~~ 19, wherein the sizing die has an internal diameter in the range of 200 - 350 pm.

34. (currently amended) The method as claimed in claim ~~23~~ 19, wherein the sizing die has an internal diameter in the range of 200 - 240 pm.

35. (previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 19, wherein the roving has about 5 to 50 spiral revolutions per meter before the first rotating device, backward in the direction of the coating device.

36. (previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 19, wherein, after leaving the rotating device, the roving consists of substantially parallel filaments.

37. (previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 19, wherein the fibers from which the rovings are formed are selected from the group consisting of synthetic inorganic fibers, carbon fibers, plastic fibers and natural fibers.

38. (previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 19, wherein the fibers are coated with at least one synthetic thermoplastic polymer having a softening point of 100°C or higher.

39. (previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 19, wherein the fibers are coated with

at least one thermosetting plastic selected from the group consisting of polycondensates; and

at least one thermosetting plastic selected from the group consisting of polyadducts.

40. (previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 22, wherein in said subsequent step of coating the rovings with a mineral compound, compounds are applied which are selected from the group consisting of oxides, carbides, metal powders, crystalline carbon and mixtures thereof, the average particle size thereof being in the range of 5 pm-300 pm.

41 - 43. (canceled)